

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7201

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 CARACAS 3526

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, AMGT, ECRP, VE
SUBJECT: PARM - ANNUAL POLICY AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT -
PARTS II AND III.

REF: (A) STATE 38356; (B) STATE 45461; (C) STATE 47671

1. PART II - RESOURCE ASSESSMENT.

A. PROGRAM FUNDING. MOST OF THE COURSES OF ACTION
OUTLINED IN PART I ARE NOT RESOURCE SENSITIVE. THEY ARE
ACHIEVABLE BY ON-GOING REPRESENTATION, CONSULTATION AND
CONTACT WORK HERE AND IN WASHINGTON. PROGRAM FUNDS ARE
REQUIRED ONLY FOR THE COMMERCIAL PROGRAM, WHICH WE PROJECT
ON A RISING SCALE; THE INFORMATION AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS,
WHICH WE PROPOSE TO INCREASE SHARPLY BY 1979; THE
NARCOTICS TRAINING PROGRAM, WHICH SHOULD INCREASE; AND
ON-GOING MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND IAGS PROGRAMS AT
APPROXIMATELY PRESENT LEVELS. WE ALSO PROJECT A
SIZEABLE INCREASE IN REPRESENTATION AND FBO FUNDS
TO BACKSTOP BOTH NEEDED PHYSICAL INSTALLATION EXPANSION
AND REFURBISHMENT, AND THE ALL IMPORTANT CONTACT/
REPRESENTATION WORK THAT WILL INCREASINGLY BE THE FOCUS
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OF OUR INTERACTION WITH VENEZUELAN GOVERN-
MENT AND SOCIETY.

2. SHOWN BELOW IS A TABLE OF PROPOSED RESOURCE LEVELS
FOR 1979 AS COMPARED WITH 1977, REFLECTING THESE
RECOMMENDATIONS:

STATE	1977	1979
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REPRESENTATION	22,000	35,000
FBO	72,495	204,450
CULTURAL (CU)	210,000	650,000
COMMERCIAL PROGRAM		
U.S. SOLO EXHIBITION (1)	100,000	305,000
PROGRAM FUNDS	38,105(2)	40,000
MARKET RESEARCH	-	25,000(3)
USIS		
PROGRAM AND MEDIA SUPPORT	872,000	1,205,000
AID (NARCOTICS)	13,000	74,000
MILGP	100,000	100,000
IAGS(4)	120,500	17NQPP

(1) DEPT. OF COMMERCE FUNDS, RECOVERABLE.

(2) SEE COUNTRY COMMERCIAL PROGRAM.

(3) UNDER USDOC DIRECT CONTRACT.

(4) THE IAGS FIGURES ARE DERIVED FROM THAT OFFICE'S FISCAL YEAR 1978 PROGRAM AS SUBMITTED TO THEIR PRINCIPAL OFFICE IN THE CANAL ZONE AND IS BASED ON DATA PROVIDED BY THE DIRECCION DE CARTOGRAFIA NACIONAL.

3. B. STAFF.

STATE

OF

THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SECTIONS IN VENEZUELA ARE ADEQUATELY STAFFED AT THE PRESENT WITH THREE POLITICAL OFFICERS AND A LABOR ATTACHE, AND THREE ECONOMIC OFFICERS, INCLUDING THE PETROLEUM ATTACHE AND A FINANCIAL ATTACHE. WE CONSIDER THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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BARE BONES STAFFING IN VIEW OF VENEZUELA'S IMPORTANCE NOT ONLY AS A PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER OF PETROLEUM TO THE U.S., BUT ALSO AS ONE OF THE FEW DEMOCRACIES IN THE HEMISPHERE LIKELY TO HAVE POINTS OF COINCIDENT INTEREST WITH THE U.S. AND AS A LEADER OF THE THIRD WORLD WITH A STRONG VOICE IN THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE.

4. THE COMMERCIAL STAFF, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS STRONG, IN VIEW OF A TEMPORARY COMMERCIAL TASK FORCE OF THREE OFFICERS, APPROVED BY 76 STATE 43027, AND WHOSE WRIT GUNS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1978. WITH THE PHASING OUT OF THE COMMERCIAL TASK FORCE, ONE OF THE POSITIONS WILL BE PERMANENTLY RETAINED AS A MAJOR PROJECTS OFFICERS. WE RECOMMEND THAT AN ADDITIONAL POSITION FROM THE TASK FORCE BE REPROGRAMMED TO FILL A POSITION WE PROPOSE TO ESTABLISH IN MARACAIBO IN ANTICIPATION OF THE COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES REPRESENTED BY THE EXPANSION OF MINING AND STEEL INDUSTRY ACTIVITIES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF CORPOZULIA.

5. THE ASSIGNMENT OF AN AID COUNTRY FINANCE SERVICES OFFICER, AS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED, REMAINS A MATTER OF HIGH PRIORITY AND WILL CONTRIBUTE TO OUR OVERALL COMMERCIAL EFFORT.

6. CONSULAR OPERATIONS CONTINUE TO BE SUBJECTED TO INCREASING PRESSURE AND AN EVER-EXPANDING WORKLOAD. WE CONSIDER HOWEVER THAT THE FINDINGS OF THE CONSULAR ASSISTANCE TEAM WITH REGARD TO THE REMODELING OF OUR VISA WORK AREA AND THE INSTALLATION OF NEW EQUIPMENT WILL PROVIDE THE INSTRUMENTS NECESSARY TO DO THE JOB. AN INCREASE IN ONE LOCAL EMPLOYEE POSITION FOR THE IMMIGRANT VISA UNIT WAS REQUESTED IN CARACAS 1776.

7. THE GREATEST POTENTIAL FOR PERSONNEL SAVINGS IS IN OUR ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION. WE HAVE PROPOSED TO THE

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DEPARTMENT A STUDY TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM WHICH COULD RESULT IN SOME PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS.

8. OTHER AGENCY PROGRAMS AND RESOURCE LEVELS

WE RECOMMEND THAT THE BULK OF REGIONAL OFFICES IN CARACAS BE TRANSFERRED ELSEWHERE, AND THAT THE SIZE OF THE MILITARY GROUP AND THE DEFENSE ATTACHE'S OFFICE BE SCALED DOWN.

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CARACAS IS A HIGH-COST POST. A REDUCTION OF 49 AMERICAN POSITIONS AS ENVISIONED IN THE CHART BELOW UNDER PAGT III (A) STAFF REPROGRAMMING, WOULD REPRESENT AN ESTIMATED SAVINGS OF \$353,739.35 IN HOUSING ALLOWANCES ALONE, AND AN ADDITIONAL SAVINGS OF \$51,945 IN POST ALLOWANCES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR. BASED ON CURRENT TRENDS, IT WOULD BE REASONABLE TO ESTIMATE AN AVERAGE INCREASE IN HOUSING ALLOWANCES OF 35 PERCENT WITH A POSSIBLE HIGH OF AS MUCH AS 50 PERCENT FOR THE NEXT AND SUCCEEDING YEARS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR ESTIMATES OF AN INFLATIONARY RATE CLOSE TO 10 PERCENT, WE CAN ALSO ANTICIPATE THAT THE NEXT RETAIL PRICE SURVEY WILL ESCALATE US TO A CLASS 4 OR 5 POST ALLOWANCE. EVEN WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM THE DECREASE IN DEMAND FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES THAT SUCH A REDUCTION IN REGIONAL POSITIONS WOULD IMPLY WOULD ALSO ENABLE US TO IMPLEMENT A REASONABLE REDUCTION OF 2 US AND 4 LOCAL POSITIONS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION. THE TRANSFER OF THE REGIONAL OFFICES TO MIAMI OR WASHINGTON OR TO LOW-COST POSTS IN THE CARIBBEAN AREA WOULD NOT REDUCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THESE OPERATIONS AND WOULD RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS TO THE
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GOVERNMENT.

9. USIS HAS A MODE CEILING OF 13, BUT TWO POSITIONS ARE CUGRENTLY UNFILLED. TO STAFF UP FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION IN PROGRAM, WE PROPOSE TO FILL THESE TWO POSITIONS, USING ONE TO STAFF A DEPUTY PAO SLOT AND THE SECOND TO FILL THE BNC DIRECTORSHIP IN MARACAIBO. WE MAY ALSO REPROGRAM THE DIRECTOGSHIP OF THE CARACAS BNC TO FILL THE SLOT OF DIRECTOR OF THE PGOPOSED NEW USIS INFORMATION CENTER.

10. PART III - PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS.
A. REPROGRAMMING. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE CARACAS REGIONAL OFFICES OF DEA, IRS, LEGATT AND STATE REGIONAL RADIO AND TELEPHONE TECHNICIANS BE ELIMINATED.

11. WITH REGARD TO THE DAO OPERATION, WE RECOMMEND THE ELIMINATION OF THE ASSISTANT ARMY ATTACHE AND THE ASSISTANT NAVAL ATTACHE AND ONE NON-COMMISSIONED

OFFICER OF THE SUPPORT STAFF. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT DIA HAS ALREADY DECIDED NOT TO REPLACE THE PRESENT ASSISTANT NAVAL ATTACHE WHO WILL BE LEAVING SHORTLY. IN ADDITION, IT HAS COME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN IN DIA TO TRANSFER THE ATTACHE AIRCRAFT TO ANOTHER POST. WE DO NOT SUPPORT THAT RECOMMENDATION.

12. IF LEGISLATIVE AUTHORIZATION IS RECEIVED TO RETAIN A MILITARY GROUP IN VENEZUELA, THE TOTAL COMPLEMENT WILL BE 8 TO 12 OFFICERS. IF SUCH AUTHORIZATION IS NOT FORTHCOMING, WE WILL FORM AN OSA ACCORDING TO TERMS OF EXISTING LEGISLATION, HOPEFULLY AT THE EXPANDED MANNING OF 6 OFFICERS.

O
SINCE WE THINK IT DOUBTFUL AT THIS JUNCTURE THAT
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CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR A SEPARATE MILITARY GROUP WILL BE OBTAINED, WE HAVE FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PLANNING USED THE FIGURE OF 6 FOR AN OSA.

13. IF THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE ACCEPTED, WE ESTIMATE THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ELIMATE TWO COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS OFFICERS, ONE LOCAL B&F POSITION AND THREE LOCAL GENERAL SERVICES POSITIONS.

14. A TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS IS AS FOLLOWS:

AGENCY OR	PRESENT	AUTHORIZED	OFFICE	MODE	COMPLEMENT	RECOMMENDED	REDUCTION	NEW	TOTAL
	US		US		LOCAL	US	LOCAL		
DEA									
REGIONAL									
OFFICE	12	0	12	0	0	0	0		
IRS	3	0	3	0	0	0	0		
LEGAT	4	0	4	0	0	0	0		
DAO	13	2	3	0	10	2			
MILGP	29	4	23	2	6	2			
CEO/T	1	0	1	0	0	0			
CEO/R	1	0	1	0	0	0			
STATE DAS(1)2	19		2	4	0	15			

(1) RECUCTION CONTINGENT UPON EFFECTING ABOVE RECOMMENDATIONS.

15. B. STATE INCREASES/DECREASES:

INCREASES

1. COMMERCIAL POSITION FSO-6/4 \$42,597

1. FSL-6 IV UNIT CONSULAR SECTION 8,720

DECREASES (1)

2 COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS OFFICERS \$46,042

1 LOCAL B&F POSITION 11,739
3 LOCAL GENERAL SERVICES POSITIONS 15,528

(1) THESE DECREASES WILL BE POSSIBLE ONLY IF REGIONAL
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OFFICES ARE ELIMINATED AND DAO AND MILGP STAFFING IS
REDUCED AS NOTED ABOVE.

16. C. LOWER PRIORITY POSITIONS
IN DEEPIING WITH PART II ABOVE, FOLLOWING ARE THE
EMBASSY'S LOWER PRIORITY POSITIONS, ESTIMATED AT 5 PERCENT
OF THE AMERICAN AND 5 PERCENT OF THE FSL COMPLEMENTS.

AMERICANS TWO COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS (1)

POSITION NO. 50-201

POSITION NO. 55-207

ONE ROTATIONAL OFFICER

O

POSITION NO. 00-990

FSLs ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN NO. 2(1)

O

POSITION NO. 035

ONE GENERAL SERVICES CLERK(1)

POSITION NO. 030

TWO MAINTENANCE HELPERS (1)

POSITION NO. 075

POSITION NO. 076

(1) THESE PRIORITIES ARE PREDICATED ON THE TRANSFER
OF THE BULK OF THE REGIONAL OFFICE OPERATIONS FROM
CARACAS AS RECOMMENDED ABOVE.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 3 CARACAS 3526

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U.S. MISSION - CARACAS STAFFING (ON DECK) CURRENT FY 1977

AGENCY	AMERICAN OFFICERS	AMERICAN STAFF	AMERICAN FSL	FSL STAFF
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STATE;

EXEVUTIVE	3	3	-	4
POLITICAL	12	2	-	1
ECON/COMM	10	2	4	6
CONSULAR	9	-	3	11
CEN. COMPL. OFF.	1	-	-	-
REG. SECURITY (CORE)	2	1	1	-
REG. RADIO (CEO/R) (CORE)	1	-	-	-
REG. TELE.(CEO/T)(CORE)	1	-	-	-

ADMIN/GS/PER/B&F

CORE	4	1	5	19
DAS	-	-	-	14

COMMUNICATION

CORE	7	-	-	7
DAAS	2	-	-	5
USIS:(1)	10	1	8	230
FAS:	2	1	1	1

JUSTICE:

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LEGAL ATTACHE	2	2	-	-
DEA: REGIONAL(2)	4	4	-	-
DEA: DISTRICT OFFICE	2	1	-	-
DAO:	6	7	-	3
AID:(3)	1	-	-	1
MILGP:(4)	20	5	-	4
IAGS:	2	-	-	2
IRS:(5)	2	1	-	-

(1) MODE CEILING IS 13; NOT INCLUDED IN THESE FIGURES ARE REGIONAL LIBRARIAN AND ONE TGAINEE SLOW WHICH ARE NOT CHARGEABLE TO CEILING.

(2) MODE CEILING IS 12, PLUS 4 U.S. CONTRACT WOGKERS.

(3) APPROVED CFS POSITIONS UNFILLED.

(4) MODE CEILING AS OF 3/31/76 WAS 29. DOES NOT INCLUDE 13 PEP STUDENTS.

(5) MODE CEILING IS 3, BUT IRS ALWAYS HAD 3 TDYERS IN ADDITION TO CEILING.

PROJECTED CARACAS STAFFING - FY 1979

AGENCY AMERICAN AMERICAN FSL FSL STAFF
O OFFICERS STAFF PROFESSIONAL

STATE:

O

EXECUTIVE 3 3 - 4

POLITICAL 12 2 - 1

O

ECON/COMM 8 2 3 5

CONSULAG 9 - 3 12

REG. SECURITY (CORE) 2 1 1 -

ADMIN/GS/PER/B&F

CORE 4 1 5 19

DAS - - - 10

COMMUNICATION

CORE 7 - - 7

DAS - - - 5

USIS 11 1 9 21

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FAS 2 1 1 1

JUSTICE/DEAO

DISTRICT OFFICE 2 1 - -

DAO 3 6 - 3

AID 2 - - 2

MILGP 6 - - 2

IAGS 2 - - 2

MARACAIBO STAFFING - CURRENT FY 1977

AMERICAN AMERICAN FSL FSL STAFF
N OFFICERS STAFF PROFESSIONAL

STATE:

CONSULAR 2 - - 3

PROJECTED FY-79

STATE:

CONSULAR 2 - - 3

COMMERCIAL 1 - - -

USIS: 1 - - -

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